

St. John's Episcopal Church

Page 2

Property Name: St. John's Episcopal Church Inventory Number: PG:61-9  
 Address: 11040 Baltimore Avenue (US 1) City: Beltsville Zip Code: 20705  
 County: Prince Georges USGS Topographic Map: Beltsville  
 Owner: Vestry of Zion Parish Is the property being evaluated a district? yes  
 Tax Parcel Number: 28 Tax Map Number: 19 Tax Account ID Number: 1007097  
 Project: US 1/MD 201: Sunnyside Avenue to MD 198 Agency: SHA  
 Site visit by MHT staff: no X yes Name: CAL/TJT Date: 04/01/2003  
 Is the property is located within a historic district? yes X no  
 If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NR-listed district yes Eligible district yes Name of District: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource yes no Non-contributing but eligible in another context yes

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district) Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible X yes no

Criteria: A B X C D Considerations: X A B C D E F G None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:  
 Project Review and Compliance Files

**Description of Property and Eligibility Determination:** *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The St. John's Episcopal Church was previously evaluated for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places as part of SHA's Short-Term Congestion Relief Project in 1999. The church complex was determined not eligible for the National Register as part of that consultation. Based on a site visit to the church by MHT staff in April 2003, the National Register eligibility of the property is being reconsidered.

The church is one of the few nineteenth century resources that remain to illustrate the early development of the Beltsville community. The earliest church on this site was constructed in 1856. Fire and storms demolished the first two churches. The present church, constructed in 1877-1878, is the third church at the site. A cemetery located at the rear of the church contains a range of elaborate headstones that date from 1809 to present and demonstrates the long-term occupation of the property by the parish.

The church complex consists of the church (1877-78), a parish hall (1924) and cemetery (1809-present). The church retains the character-defining elements of a rural religious structure with Gothic influences, such as the steeply-pitched roof, bell tower

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: A B X C D Considerations: X A B C D E F G None

MHT Comments

Andrew Levin  
 Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

4/22/03  
 Date

[Signature]  
 Reviewer, NR Program

4-22-03  
 Date

St. John's Episcopal ChurchPage 3

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with open belfry and large round-headed windows. Intact details include the brick arches, wood entrance doors, wood louvered windows on the bell tower and multiple stained glass windows.

Alterations to the building complex include an enclosed breezeway between the church and parish hall (circa 1960), an addition to the parish hall (1991) and the enclosure of the parish hall porch (1991). These alterations are complementary in materials and scale to the historic buildings on the property and do not detract from the overall feeling or integrity of the property.

In addition, the church's location on a bluff overlooking the intersection of Baltimore Avenue (US 1) and Powder Mill Road (MD 212) is screened by evergreen trees that lessen the visual and audible impact of the heavily-traveled roadways.

St. John's Episcopal Church is a designated historic site by the Historic Preservation division of the Prince George's County Department of Planning (M-NCPPC). Despite some alterations to the property over the years, the M-NCPPC has never felt that the property should be removed from their list of designated historic sites.

St. John's Episcopal Church is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, and Criteria Consideration A, as an early example of Beltsville's development and as a good example of a rural church with Gothic style influences that maintains its integrity and illustrates the growth of the parish over time. Contributing resources and elements include the main church, parish hall, cemetery and vegetative buffer that surrounds the property.

Prepared by: Tim Tamburrino Date Prepared: 04/11/2003

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST ADDENDUM SHEET  
Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term Congestion Relief

Property Name: St. John's Episcopal Church  
Survey No.: PG:61-9

Property Address 11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, Prince George's County  
Owner Name/Address Vestry of Zion Parish/Box 14, Beltsville, MD 20705  
Year Built 1877, 1924, 1991

US 1 @ MD 212  
Attachment 4  
St. John's Church (PG61-9)  
Evaluation and Boundary

Description:

St. John's Episcopal Church was previously surveyed in 1988. At that time no determination of eligibility was made, and no boundaries were delineated.

Since the church was previously surveyed, a 2-story brick office wing has been added to the south side of the Parish House. The office wing has a side-gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. It has a grooved concrete foundation, and a second story covered in brick and weatherboard. The office wing has 6/6 double-hung and 12/12 double-hung windows. It blends harmoniously with the site and the other buildings.

The church and Parish House are otherwise unchanged.

National Register Eligibility:

The St. John's Episcopal Church Property, constructed circa 1877, with the Parish House added in 1924 and an office wing added in 1991, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as an excellent example of a gothic-revival church property. The property represents the early development of Beltsville. It has excellent integrity, and retains its steep-pitched roof, bell tower, round-arched stained-glass windows and associated cemetery. This property meets Criteria Consideration A, as it is a religious property which derives its primary significance from its architectural distinction. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state, or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. Finally, the structure has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The National Register boundaries of the St. John's Episcopal Church Property follow the current property lines of 11040 Baltimore Avenue (Tax Map 19 and Parcel 28 of Block 17). This 1.3 hectare (3.22 acres) parcel is bounded on the south and west by adjacent tax parcels on the west by Baltimore Avenue, and on the east by Powder Mill Road. The boundary includes the church building, Parish House, office wing and cemetery. According to deed research, the property was originally part of a .6 hectare (1.5-acre) parcel which was purchased by the Vestry of Zion Parish in 1855.

MHT CONCURRENCE:

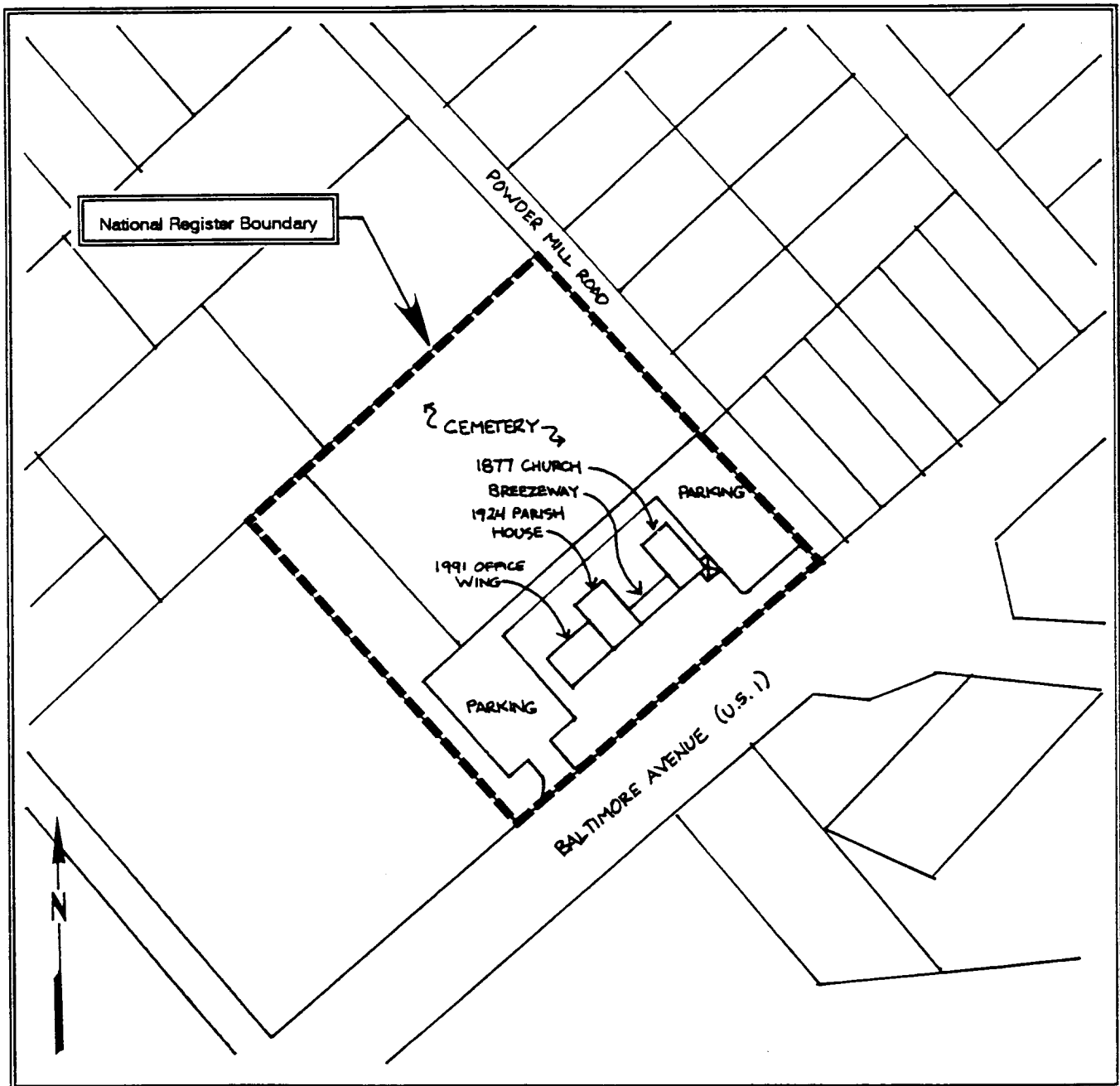
Eligibility recommended ☒ not recommended  
Criteria A B C D Considerations A B C D E F G None  
Comments: to be reviewed

[Signature] 9/1/99  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

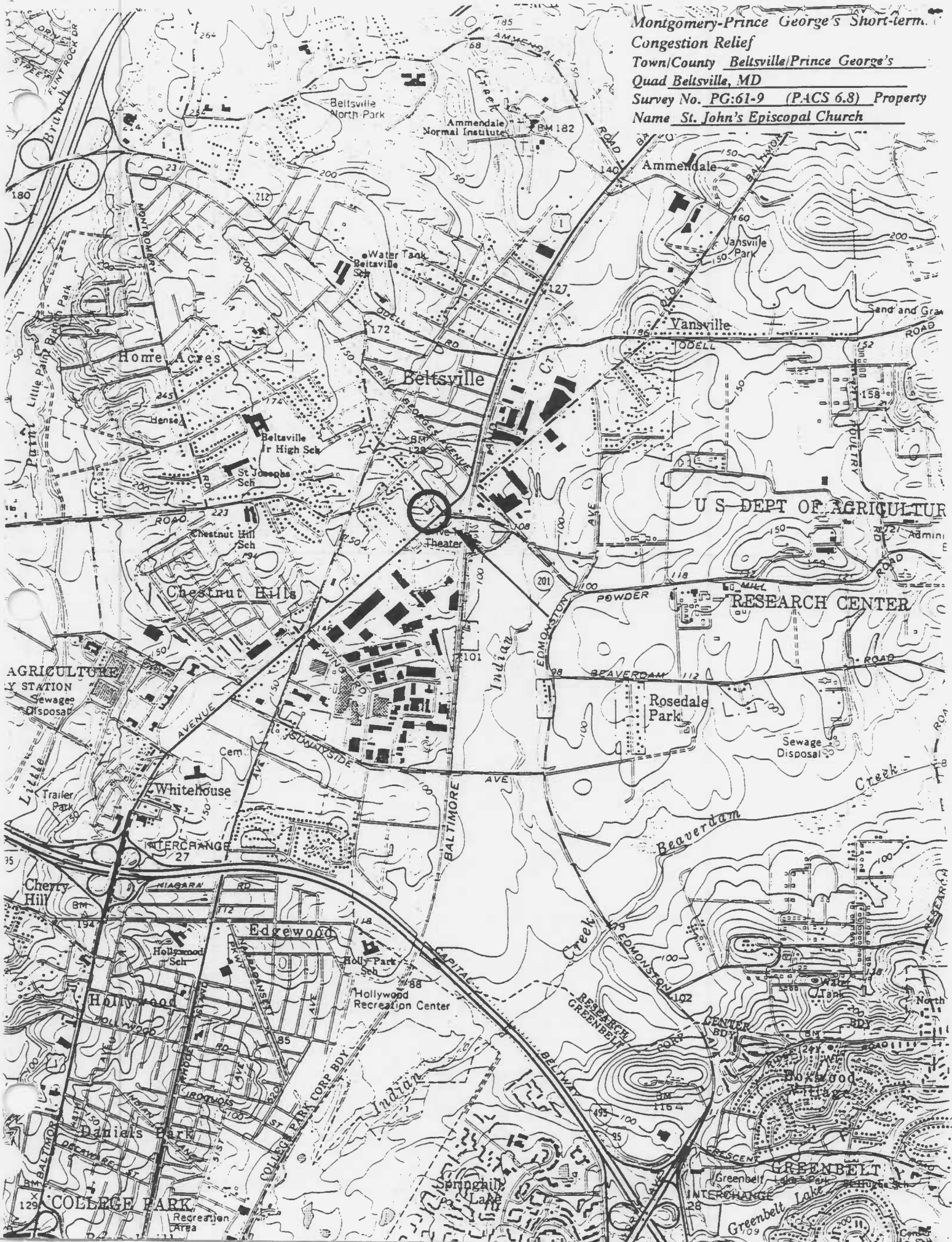
[Signature] 9/1/99  
Reviewer, NR program Date

Property Address 11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, Prince George's County  
Owner Name/Address Vestry of Zion Parish/Box 14, Beltsville, MD 20705  
Year Built 1877, 1924, 1991

Resource Sketch Map and National Register Boundary Map:



Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term  
Congestion Relief  
Town/County Beltsville/Prince George's  
Quad Beltsville, MD  
Survey No. PG:61-9 (PACS 6.8) Property  
Name St. John's Episcopal Church





1 PG 61-4

2 St. Johns Episcopal Church

3 Prince Georges Co., Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 Elevation, Church

8 1 of 11





1. RE: 61-9

2. St. John's Episcopal Church

3. Prince Georges Co Md

4. Susan Taylor

5. 5/98

6. Md State

7. NE corner

8. 2 of 11

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



1 P5-3-9

2 St John's Episcopal Church

3 Prince Georges Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHIP

7 N. elevation

8 3 of 10



- 1 R. 31-4
- 2 St John's Episcopal Church
- 3 Prince George's Co. Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/97
- 6 Md (HP)
- 7 N.W. corner
- 8 4 of 11



PC 161-7

1 St. Johns Episcopal Church

3 Prince George's Co., Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md 5403

7 W. elevation

8 5 7 11





- 1 1G-61-9
- 2 St Johns Episcopal Church
- 3 Prince Georges Co, Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md SHPO
- 7 See lower
- 8 E of H



1 PG 61-7

2 St. John's Hospital 1914

3 Prince George's Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 Bag

6 MASHPO

7 S. attention

8 7 of 11



1 P's 161-3

2 N. G. W. Episcopal Church

3 Prince George's Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/27

6 Md SHP

7 E. C. 10200

8 8 of 11



1 P.C. 61-9

2 St John Evangelical Church

3 B'nai B'rith Lodge, Co. 1st

4 Susa - Taylor

5 5198

6 11th St. Rm

7 Elevation office

8 9 of 11



ST. JOHN'S  
RECTORY CHURCH  
ERECTED 1857  
DESTROYED BY FIRE 1868  
REBUILT 1869  
DESTROYED BY STORM 1874  
REBUILT 1877



1 PG 21-7

2 Lt James Sp. Inspector at

3 Bureau, Chicago, Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Mid SHPO

7 Date Stamp, State of

8 10 1



1 16:61-0

2 2 1/2 hrs Episcopal Church

3 Prince George's Co Md

4 Susan Ayler

5 5/28

6 Md SPS

7 Cemetery

8 11/12/11

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #61-9

Building Date: 1877

Building Name: St. John's Episcopal Church

Location: 11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland

Private/Religious/Occupied/Excellent/Accessible

Description

St. Johns Episcopal Church, Zion Parish is a two-part brick church; it consists of a Gothic Revival nave with steeply pitched gable roof and corner tower, to which is attached an early twentieth century front-gabled Parish Hall and connecting enclosed breezeway. The principal and original church is six bays long, built in brick laid in 7:1 common bond. Entrance is in the east gable front; above the entry vestibule is a large tripartite stained glass window composed of three round-arched windows, all enclosed within a hood molding. Set into the northeast corner is a three-story tower, topped at third level by an open belfry with stick style wooden arch and struts covered by a steep eight-faceted roof with a wooden cross finial. There is a cornerstone set into the northeast corner of the tower. The west rear gable end of the church is lighted, over the altar, by three separate round-arched stained glass windows. A brick Parish Hall was built in the 1920's, a short distance south of the church. Like the church building, the Parish Hall is a front-gabled structure; its gable roof has a shallower pitch, however, and the wood cornices are returned. Above the entry porch is a double round-arched window with hood molding, reflecting a similar motif on the church. In the 1960's a breezeway was built between the Church and the Parish Hall, and was later enclosed. This enclosed hyphen has shaped parapets, and windows recessed in shallow round arches. To the west of the church is a large tree-shaded graveyard with many ancient stones.

Significance

St. John's Episcopal Church has been a local landmark along the Baltimore Washington Turnpike since its construction in 1877. It is a handsome example of late nineteenth century Gothic Revival church architecture, and it has been expanded by additions which reflect and complement some of the details of the original church building. In 1855, John W. Brown, innkeeper at the White House Tavern, deeded to the Vestry of Zion Parish one and one-half acres "on the west side of Baltimore Washington Turnpike, on the west side of a hill". Two churches preceded the present church on this site, the first destroyed by fire in 1867, and the second by a tornado in 1874. The present church was consecrated by Bishop William Pinkney in 1878. The Parish Hall was constructed in 1925 just south of the church building. In 1960 a breezeway was constructed, connecting the Parish Hall to the church; it was later enclosed, and finished with a shaped parapet and arched window recesses. St. John's Episcopal Church is a prominent visual landmark on the west side of Baltimore Boulevard. It is associated with William Pinkney, Rector of Zion Parish and later fifth Bishop of Maryland. It is a handsome example of late nineteenth century Gothic Revival brick church architecture, with complementary additions.

Acres: 3.22 acres

# Grand Historical Trust Late Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. P.G.#61-9

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic St. John's Episcopal Church, Zion Parish

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 11040 Baltimore Avenue

city, town Beltsville

vicinity of

congressional district 5

☐ not for publication

state Maryland

county Prince George's

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Vestry of Zion Parish

street & number Box 14

telephone no.:

city, town Beltsville

state and zip code Maryland 20705

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

liber 1476

city, town Upper Marlboro

folio 146

state Maryland 20772

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1981

☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records P. G. Co. Historic Preservation Commission

c/o M-NCPPC

city, town Upper Marlboro

state Maryland

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

St. Johns Episcopal Church, Zion Parish is a two-part brick church; it consists of a Gothic Revival nave with steeply pitched gable roof and corner tower, to which is attached an early twentieth century front-gabled Parish Hall and connecting enclosed breezeway.

The principal and original church is six bays long, built in brick laid in 7:1 common bond. The round arched windows have wood sills painted white, and jack arches. Entrance is in the main east gable front through a shallow hip-roof one-story vestibule with panelled double doors. Above the entry vestibule is a large tripartite stained glass window composed of three round-arched windows, all enclosed within a hood molding. Set into the northeast corner is a three-story tower. The bricks of the tower are also laid in 7:1 American bond. The tower is lighted at first level by two small round-arched windows with double arches in the brick above them; at second level are two louvered windows. There is a corbelled water table at sill level on the first level. The tower is topped at third level by an open belfry with stick style wooden arch and struts covered by a steep eight-faceted roof with a wooden cross finial.

The west rear gable end of the church is lighted, over the altar, by three separate round-arched stained glass windows: a central tall window flanked by two slightly shorter ones. Above them there are double arches in the brick. North of these three altar windows there is evidence of a door, now closed structurally and filled in with brick.

The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with gray asbestos shingle. The wood cornice is boxed and painted white, and has a steep overhang. A tall brick interior chimney rises from the north plane of the roof at the northwest corner.

Set into the northeast corner of the tower is a cornerstone which reads:

St. John's P.E. Church  
 Erected 1857  
 Destroyed by fire 1866  
 Rebuilt 1868  
 Destroyed by Storm 1874  
 Rebuilt 1877.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. P.G.#61-9

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

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Six-panel doors lead from the entry vestibule into the nave. The wood pews are arranged on each side of a central aisle. The coved ceiling is supported by wood trusses, and there is dark beaded wood wainscoting around the walls.

A brick Parish Hall was built in the 1920's, a short distance south of the church; it houses a Sunday School room and Sacristy. Like the church building, the Parish Hall is a front-gabled structure on the same line as the church; its gable roof has a shallower pitch, however, and the wood cornices are returned. A flat-roof porch with Tuscan columns shelters the double door which is centered in the east gable front. Above this door, and above the entry porch, is a double round-arched window with hood molding, reflecting a similar motif on the church itself. In the 1960's a breezeway was built between the Church and the Parish Hall, and was later enclosed. This enclosed hyphen has shaped parapets, and windows recessed in shallow round arches. Entrance is centered in the east facade of the hyphen: a double door flanked by 4/4 windows and inset in a wide recessed arch. A cross surmounts the center of the parapet.

A flat-roof parapeted kitchen addition has been constructed on the south side of the Parish Hall. It rests on a high poured concrete basement.

To the west (rear) of the church is a large tree-shaded graveyard with many ancient stones.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. P.G.# 61-9

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1877

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

St. John's Episcopal Church has been a local landmark along the Baltimore Washington Turnpike since its construction in 1877. It is a handsome example of late nineteenth century Gothic Revival church architecture, and it has been expanded by additions which reflect and complement some of the details of the original church building.

Zion Parish was formed in 1811 to serve northern Prince George's County; and the first church was built near Vansville. It was destroyed by fire in 1847, and efforts were begun to construct a new church. In 1855, John W. Brown, innkeeper at the White House Tavern (#66-1), deeded to the Vestry of Zion Parish one and one-half acres "on the west side of Baltimore Washington Turnpike, on the west side of a hill .... 100 yards from Beltsville."<sup>1</sup> The new church site was about 1-1/4 mile northeast of Brown's White House Tavern, on the popular and much-traveled turnpike.

In 1857, a frame church was erected at this location; its consecration, August 6, 1857, was recorded by its Rector, William Pinkney.<sup>2</sup> This church was destroyed by fire on Good Friday morning, 1867.<sup>3</sup> A brick church was erected in its place in the following year. This second church structure was also destroyed, this time by a tornado on the fourth of July, 1874, but again the congregation undertook to rebuild. Reverend William Pinkney had by this time been consecrated as the fifth Bishop of Maryland; he laid the cornerstone July 26, 1877. It reads:

St. John's P.E. Church  
Erected 1857  
Destroyed by fire 1866  
Rebuilt 1868  
Destroyed by Storm 1874  
Rebuilt 1877.

The building was consecrated by Bishop Pinkney, April 22, 1878.



The Parish Hall was constructed in 1925 just south of the church building. Although the pitch of its gable roof was shallower than that of the church, cornice and hood-molded windows in its east gable front reflected those of the main church. In 1960 a breezeway was constructed, connecting the Parish Hall to the church; it was later enclosed, and finished with a shaped parapet and arched window recesses.<sup>4</sup>

Another fire, April 24, 1972, started in the Parish Hall, and caused smoke and water damage in the sanctuary. Extensive restoration work was carried out during the next seven months, including the restoration of some of the stained glass windows. St. John's Church reopened in November 1972.<sup>4</sup>

St. John's Episcopal Church is again a prominent visual landmark on the west side of Baltimore Boulevard. It is associated with William Pinkney, Rector of Zion Parish and later fifth Bishop of Maryland. It is a handsome example of late nineteenth century Gothic Revival brick church architecture, with complementary additions.

Notes

- 1 Prince George's County Deed, CSM #1:496.
- 2 Pinkney, Parochial Report to Bishop W. R. Whittingham, 1857.
- 3 Baltimore Sun, April 20, 1867.
- 4 St. John's Episcopal Church, Zion Parish (history).

Survey No. P.G.#61-9

cf. also Stones and Bones: Cemetery Records of P.G. Co. Md., 1984

**Acreage of nominated property** 3.22 acres


Tax Map 19, parcel 28

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

### Quadrangle scale

**B**

Zone Easting Northing

D 

F 

H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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name/title Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian

**organization** P. G. Co. Historic Preservation Commission **date** June 1988

street & number	4010 CAB	c/o M-NCPPC	telephone	952-3521
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city or town	Upper Marlboro	state	Maryland	20772
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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

CHAIN OF TITLE  
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
(P.G.#61-9)

CSM#1:496  
2 Sept 1856  
Deed

John W. and Sarah Ann Brown to the Vestry  
of Zion Parish, 1.5 acres, part of Isaac's  
Park, on the west side of the Baltimore  
Washington Turnpike, 100 yards from Beltsville;  
" . . Vestry shall lay off, use and appropriate  
the aforesaid parcel of land for Erection of a  
Protestant Episcopal Church and Cemetery . . "

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

P.G.#61-9

(revised information entered 11/9/81)

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

St. John's Episcopal Church

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

11040 Baltimore Ave

CITY, TOWN

Beltsville

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

STATE

Maryland

Prince George's

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

\_\_\_ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_ STRUCTURE

\_\_\_ SITE

\_\_\_ OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

\_\_\_ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

\_\_\_ BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

\_\_\_ IN PROCESS

\_\_\_ BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

\_\_\_ UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_ WORK IN PROGRESS

#### ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_ YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_ NO

#### PRESENT USE

\_\_\_ AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_ COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_ EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_ ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_ GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_ INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_ MILITARY

\_\_\_ MUSEUM

\_\_\_ PARK

\_\_\_ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☒ RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_ SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_ TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_ OTHER

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Vestry of Zion Parish

Telephone #: 937-4292

STREET & NUMBER

11040 Baltimore Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Beltsville, Md.

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. P.G. Co. Courthouse

Liber #: CSM#1

Folio #: 496

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Upper Marlboro

Md. 20870

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

DATE

1974

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE ☒ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS History Division, MNCPPC, Calvert Mansion

CITY, TOWN

4811 Riverdale Rd., Riverdale, Md. 20840

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

PG:61-9

### CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. John's is a brick church with a steeply pitched gable roof. The entrance is through an enclosed brick porch at the east gable end, above which is a large round-arched window with hood molding. Set into the east gable end, in the north-east corner of the structure is a tower with openwork bellcote and steeple. The long north wall has six windows with segmental arches. The long south wall is hidden by a twentieth century one-story hyphen which connects the church to the parish hall, a gable-roofed brick building with entrance through the east gable end.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

1877

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Zion Parish was formed in 1811 to serve northern Prince George's County, and the first church was built in Vansville. After its destruction by fire in 1847, a movement was begun towards building another church. In 1855, John W. Brown, inn-keeper at the White House Tavern, deeded to the Vestry of Zion Parish one-and-one-half acres "on the west side of the Baltimore Washington Turnpike, on the west side of a hill . . . 100 yards from Beltsville"; here a frame church was completed by 1857, and called St. John's. Reverend William Pinckney, rector of St. Matthew's Parish since 1836, preached at St. John's during its first year; he later became the fifth Bishop of Maryland. The frame church was destroyed by fire in 1866 and rebuilt . . . (in brick) in 1868. This second church was destroyed by a storm in 1874 and the present church was built in 1877. The cornerstone, which chronicles these first three structures, was laid by Bishop Pinckney, and the church opened for services in April 1878.

The Parish Hall was built in the early 1920's.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

P.G. Deeds - CSM#1:496

Beltsville Story, Bicentennial publication, 1976

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION \_\_\_\_\_

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Susan G. Pearl

ORGANIZATION

P.G. Historical &amp; Cultural Trust

DATE

August 1980

STREET &amp; NUMBER

c/o History Division, MNCPPC, Calvert Mansion, 4811 Riverdale Rd.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Riverdale, Maryland

STATE

20840

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

CHAIN OF TITLE

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(P.G.#61-9)

CSM#1:496  
2 Sept 1856  
Deed

John W. and Sarah Ann Brown to the Vestry  
of Zion Parish, 1.5 acres, part of Isaac's  
Park, on the west side of the Baltimore  
Washington Turnpike, 100 yards from Beltsville;  
" . . Vestry shall lay off, use and appropriate  
the aforesaid parcel of land for Erection of a  
Protestant Episcopal Church and Cemetery . . "



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey : 61-9 Date 1877  
Building Name St. John's Episcopal Church  
Location 11040 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, Md.  
Open to Public X yes        no        restricted

St. John's is a brick church with a steeply pitched gable roof. The entrance is through an enclosed brick porch at the east gable end, above which is a large round-arched window with hood molding. Set into the east gable end, in the northeast corner of the structure is a tower with openwork bellcote and steeple. The long north wall has six windows with segmental arches. The long south wall is hidden by a twentieth century one-story hyphen which connects the church to the parish hall, a gable-roofed brick building with entrance through the east gable end.

Zion Parish was formed in 1811 to serve northern Prince George's County, and the first church was built in Vansville. After its destruction by fire in 1847, a movement was begun towards building another church. In 1855, John W. Brown, innkeeper at the White House Tavern, deeded to the Vestry of Zion Parish one and one half acres "on the west side of the Baltimore Washington Turnpike, on the west side of a hill . . . 100 yards from Beltsville"; here a frame church was completed by 1857, and called St. John's. Rev. William Pinckney, rector of St. Matthews Parish since 1836, preached at St. John's during its first year; he later became the fifth Bishop of Maryland. The frame church was destroyed by fire in 1866 and rebuilt (in brick) in 1868. This second church was destroyed by a storm in 1874 and the present church was built in 1877. The cornerstone, which chronicles these first three structures, was laid by Bishop Pinckney, and the church opened for services in April 1878.

The Parish Hall was built in the early 1920's.

Priv/occ/relig/exc

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

Pg 18

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1700184608

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: 4938 Powder Mill Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Beltsville				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Prince George's		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<b>OWNERSHIP</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Public    Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		<b>STATUS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b> Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No				
<b>PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church				
STREET AND NUMBER: 4938 Powder Mill Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Beltsville		STATE: Md.		
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro		STATE: Md.		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

# 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The church is a Victorian Gothic structure built in 1877. The steeply-pitched gable contains a single round-arched window with a hood moulding. On the north corner is a tower with an open bellcote and two round-arched windows. The entrance is through a square enclosed porch with a segmentally arched door frame. To the south of the porch is a round-arched window with hood moulding. Along the north wall, the six windows are segmentally arched. A sympathetic addition covers the south wall. Window sills consist of wooden beams with chamfered edge below the light itself.

Three arches separate nave and chancel; the arches are supported on wooden pillars. The interior has been extensively remodelled.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1877

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |                                       |   |  |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry     | losophy   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-            |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature   | itarian   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military     | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation           |  |

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The first church on the site was erected in 1857. This one burned in 1866 and was rebuilt two years later. In 1874, a storm destroyed the second structure; in 1877 the present building was built.

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian	
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC	DATE 1/25/73
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue	
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Md.

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

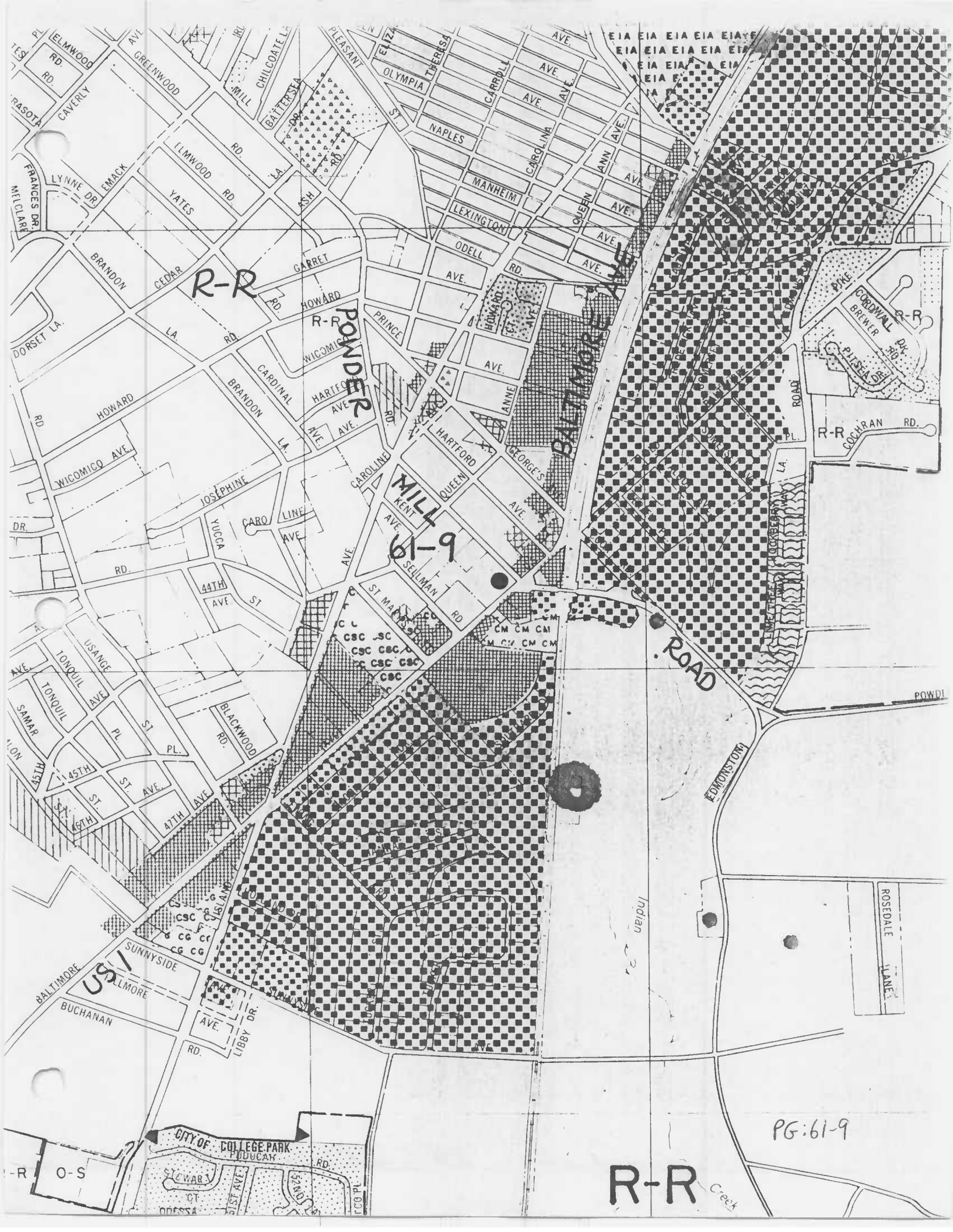
SEE INSTRUCTIONS



E-1-A

ST. JOHN'S  
CHURCH  
(61-9)

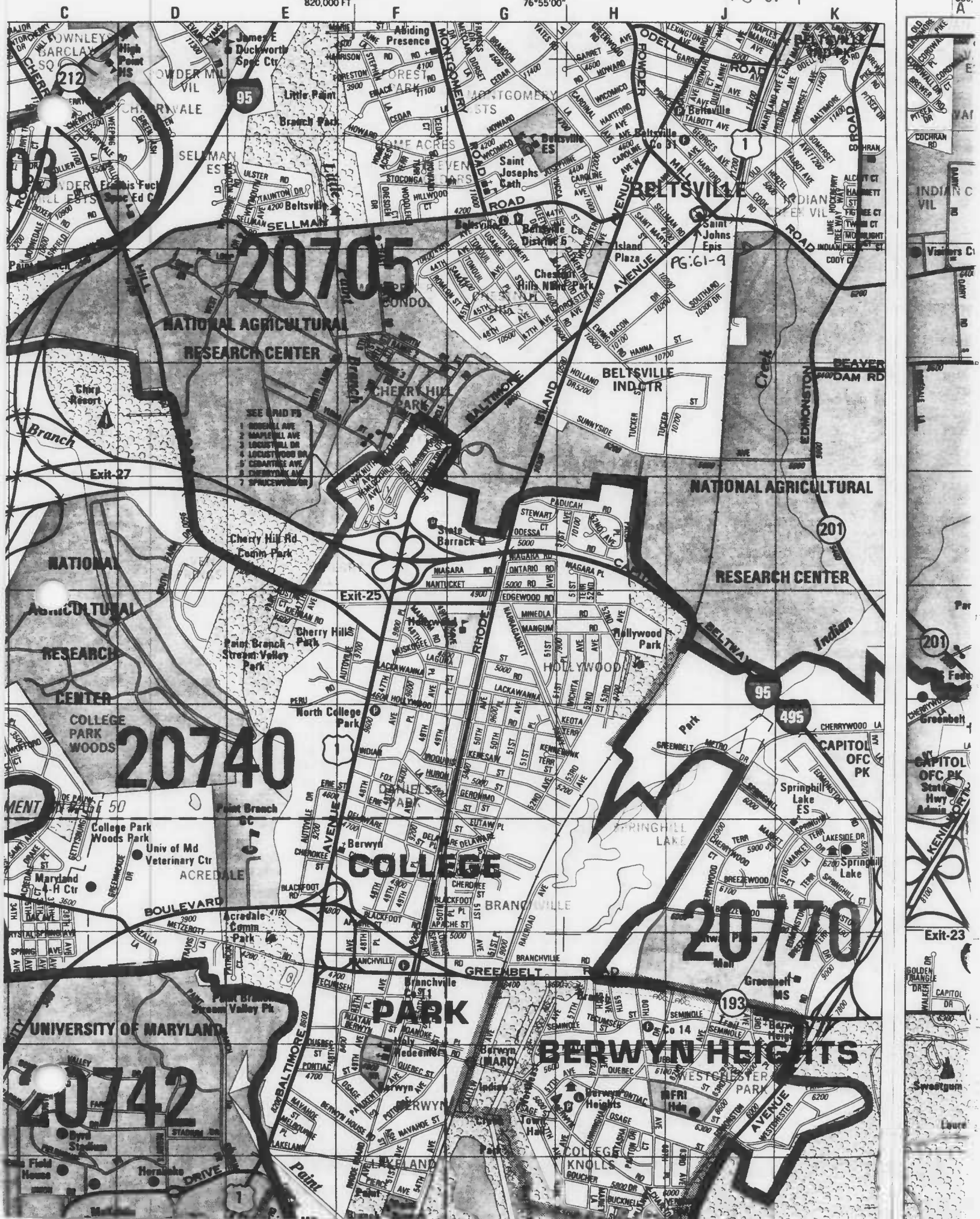
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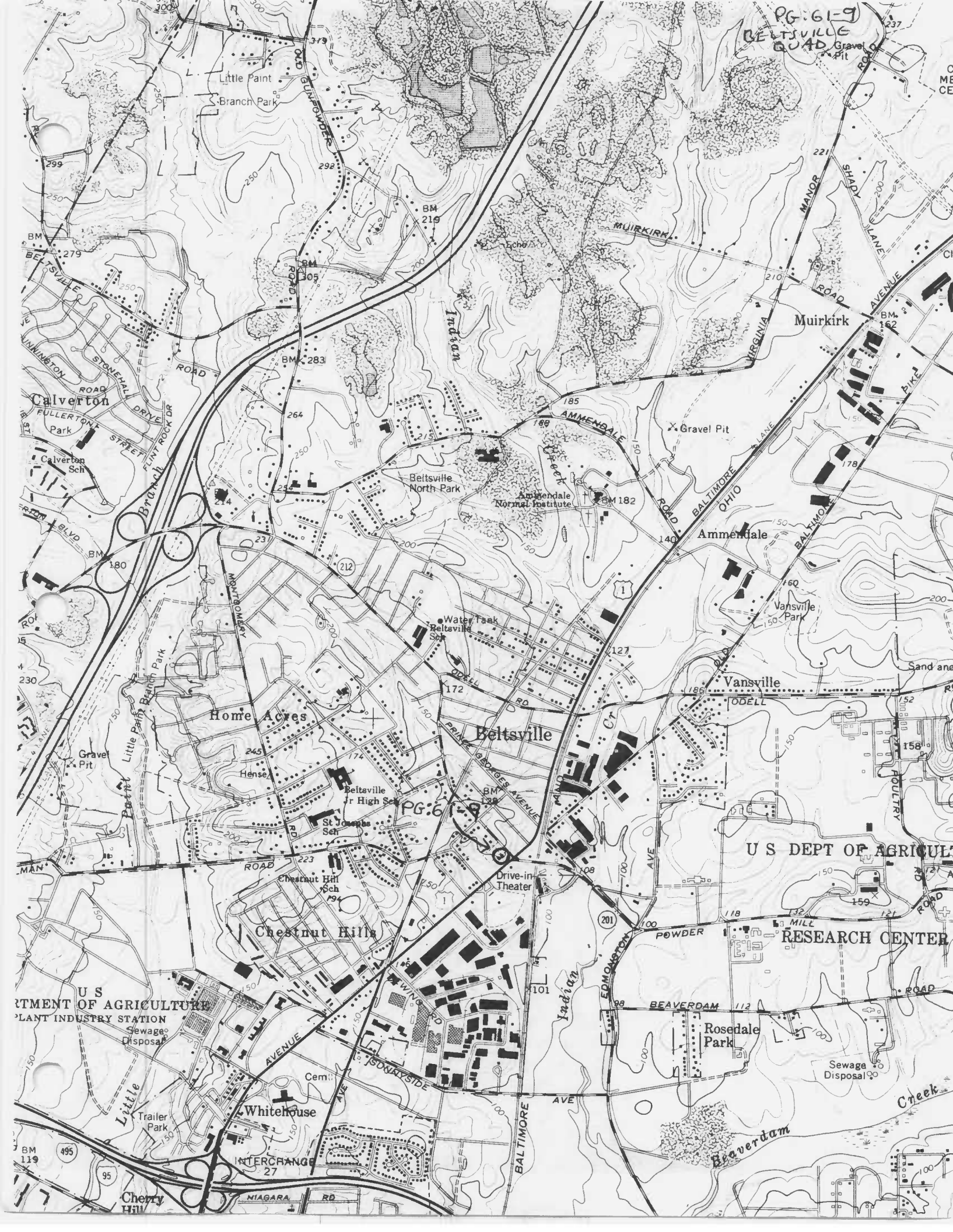
PG:61-9

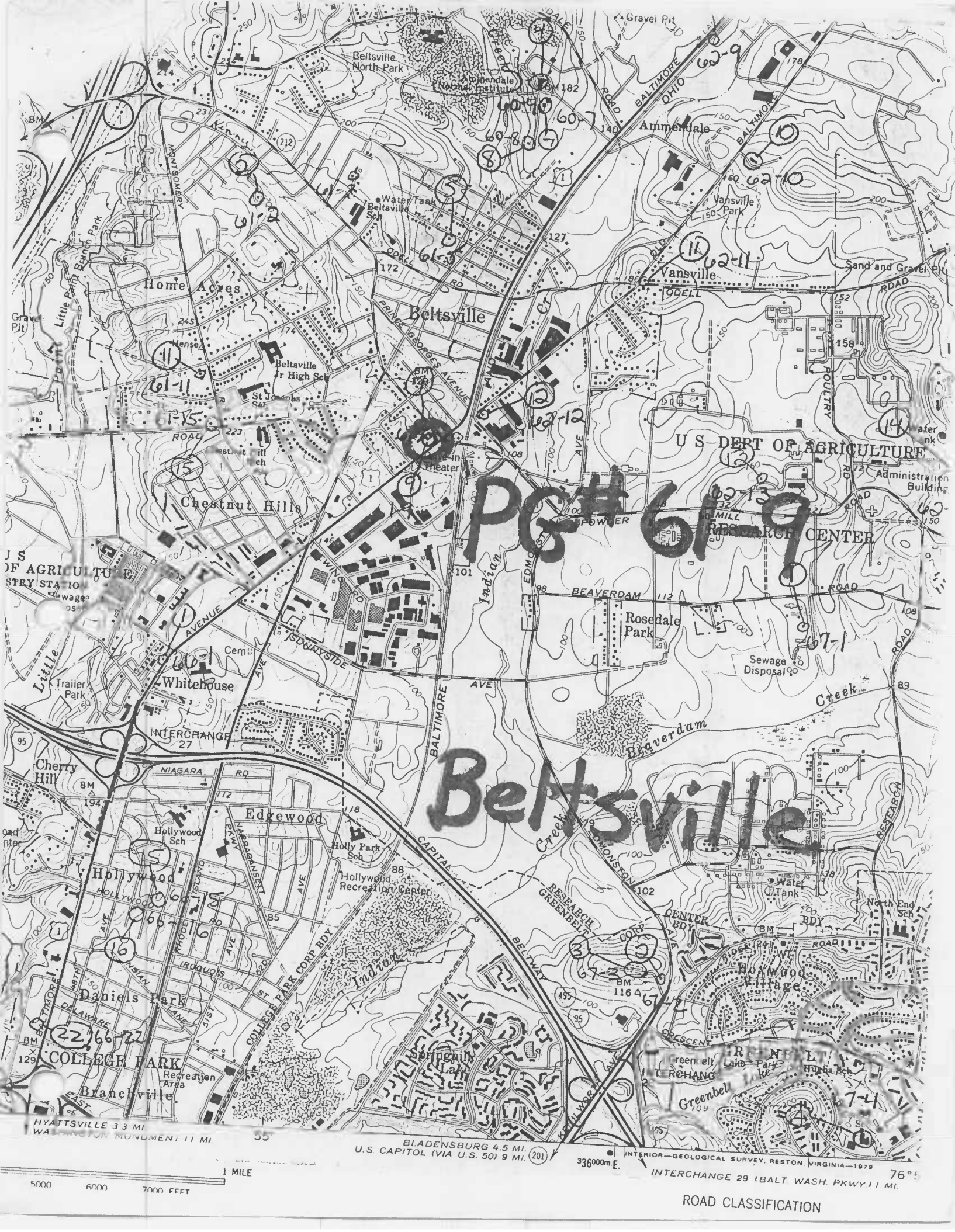
R-R Creek













St. John's Church  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan L. Pearl  
February 1988  
Northeast 3/4 elevation  
Neg: Mpt. Hist. Trust,  
Annapolis, Md.



76-101-9

St. John's Church  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl

February 1988

West elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust  
Annapolis, MD



PG #1 61-9

St. John's Church  
Prince George's Co, MD

Susan & Paul

February 1988

South elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust  
Annapolis, MD





NAME ST. JOHNS EPISCOP. CHURCH

PG: 61-9

LOCATION Rt. 1 & POWDER MILL Rd BELTSVILLE, MD

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 1/25/73 M. DWYER

2617